

**PATENT****AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the present patent application:

**Listing of Claims**

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in Claim 8, wherein the predetermined criteria is a function of the chrominance information of the block.
3. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in Claim 8, wherein the predetermined criteria is a function of the contrast of the block.
4. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in Claim 8, wherein the predetermined criteria is a function of the level of detail within the block.
5. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in Claim 8, wherein the predetermined criteria is a function of the desired bit rate.
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in Claim 8, wherein dividing further comprises separating the digital image into Y, C<sub>b</sub> and C<sub>r</sub> components.
8. (Currently Amended) A method of decimating ~~decimation of a digital image being, the digital image~~ represented by a plurality of pixels, the method of comprising:

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dividing the digital image into a plurality of blocks, wherein each block may be represented as a plurality of elements within a plurality of columns ( $m$ ) and rows ( $n$ );  
~~decimating further comprising:~~

filtering each element of each column of the block, wherein for a given  $m^{\text{th}}$  column, weighting column  $m-1$  25%, weighting column  $m$  50%, and weighting column  $m+1$  ~~filtering further comprises~~ 25%; and

decimating, selectively, certain ones of the blocks based upon predetermined criteria.

9. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 8, further comprising:  
filtering each element of each row of the block, where given an  $n^{\text{th}}$  column, filtering further comprises weighting row  $n-1$  25%, weighting row  $n$  50%, and weighting row  $n+1$  25%.

10. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in Claim 8, further comprising converting the digital image from pixel representation to frequency representation.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as set forth in Claim 18, wherein the predetermined criteria is a function of the chrominance information of the block.

13. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as set forth in Claim 18, wherein the predetermined criteria is a function of the contrast of the block.

14. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as set forth in Claim 18, wherein the predetermined criteria is a function of the level of detail within the block.

15. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as set forth in Claim 18, wherein the predetermined criteria is a function of the desired bit rate.

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16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as set forth in Claim 18, wherein means for dividing further comprises means for separating the digital image into Y, C<sub>b</sub> and C<sub>r</sub> components.

18. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for ~~decimation of~~ decimating a digital image, ~~the digital image being~~ represented by a plurality of pixels, the apparatus comprising:

means for dividing the digital image into a plurality of blocks, wherein each block may be represented as a plurality of elements within a plurality of columns ( $m$ ) and rows ( $n$ ); ~~means for decimating further comprising:~~

means for filtering each element of each column of the block, wherein for a given an  $m^{th}$  column, wherein means for filtering further comprises means for weighting column  $m-1$  25%, column  $m$  50%, and column  $m+1$  25%; and

means for selectively decimating certain ones of the blocks based upon predetermined criteria.

19. (Original) The apparatus as set forth in Claim 18, means for decimating further comprising:

means for filtering each element of each row of the block, where given an  $n^{th}$  column, means for filtering further comprises means for weighting row  $n-1$  25%, row  $n$  50%, and row  $n+1$  25%.

20. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as set forth in Claim 18, further comprising means for converting the digital image from pixel representation to frequency representation.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as set forth in Claim 28, wherein the predetermined criteria is a function of the chrominance information of the block.

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23. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as set forth in Claim 28, wherein the predetermined criteria is a function of the contrast of the block.

24. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as set forth in Claim 28, wherein the predetermined criteria is a function of the level of detail within the block.

25. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as set forth in Claim 28, wherein the predetermined criteria is a function of the desired bit rate.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as set forth in Claim 28, wherein the divider further comprises a separator, the separator configured to separate the digital image into  $Y$ ,  $C_b$  and  $C_r$  components.

28. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for ~~decimation of~~ decimating a digital image, ~~the digital image being~~ represented by a plurality of pixels, the method comprising:

a divider configured to divide the digital image into a plurality of blocks wherein each block may be represented as a plurality of elements within a plurality of columns ( $m$ ) and rows ( $n$ ); and

a decimator configured to selectively decimate certain ones of the blocks based upon predetermined criteria; ~~the said decimator comprising~~ comprising a filter configured to filter each element of each column of the block, wherein for a given  $m^{\text{th}}$  column, wherein the filter further comprises a weighter configured to weight column  $m-1$  25%, column  $m$  50%, and column  $m+1$  25%.

29. (Original) The apparatus as set forth in Claim 28, wherein the filter is further configured to filter each element of each row of the block, where given an  $n^{\text{th}}$  column, the weighter is further configured to weight row  $n-1$  25%, row  $n$  50%, and row  $n+1$  25%.

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30. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as set forth in Claim 28, further comprising a converter configured to convert the digital image from pixel representation to frequency representation.

31. (Currently Amended) A method of converting a 4:4:4 digital image into a 4:2:2 digital image, the digital image represented by a plurality of pixels, the method comprising: dividing the digital image into a plurality of blocks, wherein each block may be represented as a plurality of columns ( $m$ ), each column  $m$  comprising a plurality of elements; and selectively filtering each element of each column of the block, wherein for a given  $m^{\text{th}}$  column, filtering further comprises ~~comprising~~ weighting column  $m-1$  25%; weighting column  $m$  50%; and weighting column  $m+1$  25%.

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Currently Amended) A method of converting a 4:4:4 digital image into a 4:2:2 digital image, the digital image represented by a plurality of pixels, the method comprising: separating the digital image into Y,  $C_b$  and  $C_r$  components; dividing the  $C_b$  and  $C_r$  components into a plurality of blocks utilizing adaptive block size discrete cosine transforms (ABSDCT), wherein each block may be represented as a plurality of columns ( $m$ ), each column  $m$  comprising a plurality of elements; and selectively filtering each element of each column of the block, wherein for a given  $m^{\text{th}}$  column, wherein the step of filtering further comprises:  
weighting column  $m-1$  25%;  
weighting column  $m$  50%; and  
weighting column  $m+1$  25%.

34. (New) A processor for decimating a digital image being represented by a plurality of pixels, said processor being configured to:  
divide the digital image into a plurality of blocks, wherein each block may be represented as a plurality of elements within a plurality of columns ( $m$ ) and rows ( $n$ );

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filter each element of each column of the block;  
for a given  $m^{th}$  column, weight column  $m-1$  25%, column  $m$  50%, and column  $m+1$  25%;  
and  
selectively decimate certain ones of the blocks based upon predetermined criteria.

35. (New) A computer readable medium embodying a method for decimating a digital image being represented by a plurality of pixels, the method comprising:  
dividing the digital image into a plurality of blocks, wherein each block may be represented as a plurality of elements within a plurality of columns ( $m$ ) and rows ( $n$ );  
filtering each element of each column of the block;  
for a given  $m^{th}$  column, weighting column  $m-1$  25%, column  $m$  50%, and column  $m+1$  25%; and  
selectively decimating certain ones of the blocks based upon predetermined criteria.